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Serial No. : 10/698,958
Filed : October 31, 2003
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Attorney's Docket No.: 16104-013001 / 2003P00608
US

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings have been labeled "Replacement Sheet" and replace the earlier submitted formal drawings.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheet (4 pages)

REMARKS

In response to the office action dated January 3, 2007, Applicant is submitting replacement sheets for the drawings and amending claims 1-3, 11, 16, 19-20 and 21-23. This includes the independent claims, which are claims 1, 16 and 21. Favorable consideration of the claims as amended is requested.

Claim 1 is being amended to recite "detecting that a program presents a user message to a user in a computer system where the program is being executed" and "recording, in response to the detection, a user message identifier of the user message". This is supported by the present disclosure, for example in the description of the detection module 124 and the programs 108, 110. Specification 3:14—4:7 and 2:28—3:13. Claim 1 is also being amended to recite "using the recorded user message identifier in storing information that documents the presented user message in a log that is accessible to a user of the computer system". This is supported, for example, by the description of the panel 200 (Figure 2) and panel 300 (Figure 3). Specification 4:8—5:31. Similar changes are being made in independent claim 16 (a computer program product claim) and independent claim 21 (a system claim). Corresponding changes are made in some of the respective dependent claims. No new matter is added.

The drawings were objected to in the office action because they were not labeled "Replacement Sheet". Applicant are submitting new copies of the formal drawings so labeled with this response, and asks that the objection be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 11-13, 19 and 22 were rejected under § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for using the expression "a kernel of the computer system". Applicant is amending dependent claims 11, 19 and 22 to instead recite "a kernel of an operating system in the computer system", along the lines suggested in the office action. However, Applicant is not conceding that the rejection has merit.

Claims 1-3, 7-10, 16 and 21 were rejected under § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. 6,658,485 ("Baber"). Claims 4, 6 and 17 were rejected under § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Baber in view of U.S. 20030033440 ("Hickson"). Claims 5 and 18 were rejected under § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Baber and Hickson in view of U.S. 6,691,175

("Lodrige"). Claims 11-15 were rejected under § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Baber in view of U.S. 20020225465 ("Pramanick"). These rejections are rendered moot by the above amendments, but Applicant submits the following remarks about differences between the present subject matter and the references.

Claim 1 recites a method of gathering information about a user message. The method recites that the presentation of a user message is detected, that a user message identifier is recorded in response to the detection and used in storing information that documents the presented user message. Examples of user messages include those that are presented when the user makes an input of the wrong format, or when the system seeks user confirmation before proceeding. Specification 2:31—3:2. Examples of stored information include those shown in the logs 200 and 300. Specification 4:8—5:31. For example, the specification describes that "[u]ser messages are often in form of a dialog box displayed on a computer screen to inform the user of something or to elicit input or information from the user". Specification 1:6-7. Applicant submits that no prior art of record discloses or shows the detection of a presented user message, or the storing of information that documents the presented user message, as required by the present claims.

Baber relates to dynamic priority-based scheduling in a message queuing system. Baber title. Baber teaches that message queuing can be used when transmitting a message from a sending application on one computer via a network to a receiving application on a different computer. Baber 6:61-66. Particularly, Baber states that the priority of queued messages can be changed by a request from the sending or the receiving application. Baber 6:67—7:3. It follows that Baber is concerned with the prioritization of messages that are known to exist in a queue. As such, there is no need for Baber to detect the presentation of any of the messages or to document the presentation in a log, and Baber also does not disclose or suggest the detection and the storing in a log as recited in the present claim 1. The independent claims 16 and 21 include similar language. It therefore cannot be said that Baber anticipates or renders obvious any of the present independent claims as amended or their dependent claims.

Hickson, Lodrige and Pramanick were cited as allegedly showing specific features of the dependent claims. As such, the Examiner did not contend that any of these references discloses or suggests the subject matter of the independent claims, and Applicant submits that none of them discloses or shows the detection of a presented user message or the storing of information that documents the presented user message, as required by the present claims. Applicant is not conceding, however, that the characterizations of these references is the office action are correct or that the rejections have merit. .

Applicants requests favorable consideration of claims 1-23 in view of the above amendments and remarks.

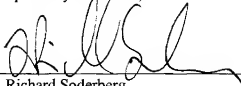
It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

This amendment is filed within the shortened statutory period and no fee is therefore due. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Date: _____

3/30/07

Respectfully submitted,



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